

### REMARKS

Entry and consideration of the above amendments are respectfully requested prior to consideration of the merits of the present application.

By this amendment, claims 39-42 are amended for improved clarity, and claims 43-48 are added. Claims 39-48 are all the claims pending in the application. In addition, a number of editorial amendments have been made to the specification and abstract for grammatical and general readability purposes. No new matter has been added.

Further, Applicants note that replacement sheets are being submitted herewith for Figs. 4 and 31. In the replacement sheets, reference characters "5a", "5b", "5c" and "5d" were replaced with "Sa", "Sb", "Sc" and "Sd", respectively, in order to be consistent with the specification.

Respectfully submitted,

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THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
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June 18, 2004